

(e) if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) Ministry of Industry has not received any complaint regarding refusal by cement manufacturers to sell cement to Government departments.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There is no such proposal with the Government at present.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) After decontrol of distribution and price of cement there has been an impressive growth of the industry both in terms of capacity and production and technology. Since the installed capacity is much in excess of domestic demand there is competition in the market which prevents suppliers from increasing the prices unreasonably.

[Translation]

Janata Cloth Scheme

2218. SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of funds released by the Government under the Janata Cloth Scheme to Gujarat during each of the last three years;

(b) whether any request of Gujarat for release of old subsidy amounting to several lakh of rupees under the Janata Cloth Scheme is pending with the Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) by when the subsidy is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA) : (a) Details of funds released to Government of Gujarat during last three years under Janata Cloth Scheme are as follows :-

(Rs. in lakh)		
1993-94	-	Rs. 155.37
1994-95	-	Rs. 147.15
1995-96	-	Rs. 27.49

(b) to (d). A sum of Rs. 22.76 lakhs was disallowed from the claims of Gujarat Rajya Handloom and Audyogic Sahkari Federation Limited under Janata Cloth Scheme for 1991-92, 1992-93 (for the quarters January-March'92 and April-June'92) as these claims were not found eligible as per the guidelines for implementation of the Scheme. The Government of Gujarat have represented to Government of India for release of this amount which is being re-examined and a decision would be taken soon.

Group Insurance Scheme

2219. SHRI D.P. YADAV : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have introduced Group Insurance Scheme for powerloom workers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of powerloom workers covered under the scheme so far State-wise; and

(d) the number of powerloom workers likely to be covered under the scheme during the year 1996-97 State-wise and funds earmarked thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA) : (a) to (d). Yes, Sir. The Government of India had introduced a Group Insurance Scheme for Powerloom Workers in association with the Life Insurance Corporation of India during the year 1992-93 (Statement enclosed). All powerloom workers of age between 18 and 60 years and those who had worked during the year shall be eligible for Insurance under this scheme. A weaver who had earned at least a minimum average pay of Rs. 700/- per month during a year can join the scheme. Every member of a family who satisfies the minimum income condition alongwith all other conditions of eligibility for the scheme shall be eligible to join the scheme. The scheme envisages an annual premium to be shared equality by the Central Government, the State Government and the powerloom Worker. For an insurance coverage of Rs. 10,000/- the annual premium will be Rs. 120/-. Contribution of Government of India would be channelised through the State Government on reimbursement basis.

Number of workers to be covered in a year depends upon the proposals submitted by the State Governments under the scheme.

Benefits :

- On the death of a member, the sum assured of Rs. 10,000/- under the policy shall become payable provided the member is a powerloom worker as defined for the purpose. In addition to the basic sum assured the amount accumulated in the running account would become payable with interest of 11% per annum.
- On reaching the terminal date or being disqualified as a powerloom worker, the accumulation in the running account only would become payable with interest at 11% per annum.
- In case of death due to accident an amount of Rs. 20,000/- (Rupees Twenty Thousand) will be paid to the family of the member in addition to the accumulated amount in the members running account payable with interest of 11% per annum.